

February

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF PEWSEY

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND OF THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1958



RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF PEWSEY

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1958

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the annual report on the public health of the District during 1958.

The estimated population furnished by the Registrar General was 17440. The excess of births over deaths during 1958 was 166 and the rate of natural increase is thus 9.5 per 1000 population. There were 336 (170 male and 166 female) births which gives a rate per 1000 population of 20.0 corrected for purposes of comparison with similar rates in other areas. The live birth rate for the administrative county is 18.7 and that for England and Wales 16.6 per 1000 population.

The death rate based on 170 deaths (93 male and 77 female) after correction for comparability was 10.9 per 1000 population. The death rate for England and Wales and for the administrative county respectively was 11.9 and 10.5 per 1000 population.

The infant death rate (under one year of age) was 8.9 per 1000 live births, based on 336 such births and 3 infant deaths. The mean number of live births and infant deaths during the period 1949-1958 gives an average infant death rate of 19.9 per 1000 live births based on a mean of 30.2 live births and 6.0 infant deaths for the ten year period. The infant death rate for England and Wales and for the administrative county were respectively during 1958, 22.5 and 22.8 per 1000 live births.

The three infant deaths (under one year old) were due to congenital malformations (2) and bronchio pneumonia (1).

Death rate from special causes gave the following rates per 1000 population for cancer (1.5 per 1000), pneumonia (0.3 per 1000), influenza (0.1) and bronchitis (0.3 per 1000). The proportional mortality rates of principal diseases (expressed as a proportion of the total deaths) during the year were : diseases of the heart and circulation, other than coronary disease 30.6 per cent ; vascular lesions of nervous system 12.4 per cent ; cancer 15.9 per cent ; coronary disease 17.6 per cent ; influenza, pneumonia and bronchitis 7.6 per cent.

The number of deaths at ages 65 years and over was 121 of which 67 occurred at 75 years and over.

The *incidence rates* per 1000 population of the following *notifiable diseases* in the Rural District during 1958 were whooping cough 0.9 ; scarlet fever 2.1 ; dysentery and food poisoning 0.9 ; respiratory tuberculosis 0.5 ; and measles 6.5.

Notifications of infectious diseases totalled 195 for the Rural District during 1958 ; 114 of these were measles.

Tuberculosis notifications which are included above, numbered 11 during 1958 ; 8 were for the respiratory form of the disease.

248 children under 15 years of age were primarily inoculated against diphtheria during 1958 ; 191 of the number were under one year of age, and 37 between 1-5 years of age. In addition, 203 children under 15 years of age were inoculated against whooping cough ; 169 of whom were under one year old.

The number of vaccinations against smallpox was 205 under one year ; there were 336 live births during 1958.

Poliomyelitis inoculations were continued throughout the year. The numbers protected are included in the County aggregate.

Other relevant data are given in the body of the report which is followed by that of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

It gives me great pleasure to record my appreciation of the assistance and co-operation I have received from the staff and my colleagues at all times.

I have the honour to be,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

RODERICK MACKAY,

Medical Officer of Health.

12th June, 1959.

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health	R. MACKAY, M.D., D.P.H.
Chief Public Health Inspector	T. F. HARDING, M.S.I.A., and Cert. Meat and Food Inspector
Additional Public Health Inspector	P. GLADWIN, M.S.I.A., and Cert. Meat and Food Inspector
Trainee ,, ,, ,,	L. T. JONES
Rodent Operator	P. N. RAISEY

The Medical Officer of Health acts also in that capacity for the other three constituent authorities of the East Wilts United Districts, viz. Amesbury R.D., Marlborough and Ramsbury R.D., and Marlborough M.B., and is responsible for the public health duties imposed by statute upon his office. He holds, in addition, the appointment of assistant County Medical Officer and in this respect carries out, on behalf of the County Council duties in connection with welfare service for which it is mainly responsible.

The Chief Public Health Inspector, together with his assistant carries out within the District, in consultation with the Medical Officer of Health, the statutory duties which are placed upon the authority generally in connection with the public health.

Matters of Public Health are normally dealt with by the Public Health and Housing Committee of the District Council.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	75828
Number of Parishes	25
Population mid-1958 as estimated by the Registrar	
General	17440
Number of inhabited houses	5355
Number of new houses erected in 1958 :—	
By Private Enterprise	17
By Local Authority	48
Rateable value	£207056
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (estimated)	£848

VITAL STATISTICS

	M.	F.	Total
Live Births	170	166	336
Legitimate	162	159	321
Illegitimate	8	7	15
Still Births	2	—	2
Legitimate	1	—	1
Illegitimate	1	—	1
Live Birth Rate (corrected)			20.0
Live Birth Rate for England and Wales			16.4
Number of Deaths from all causes	93	77	170
Death Rate			10.9
Death Rate for England and Wales			11.7
Deaths of Infants under one year :—			
Total	1	2	3
Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Infant Death Rate per 1000 live births			8.9
Infant Death Rate for England and Wales			22.5

NOTE :

The number of births, still-births and deaths are those registered during 1958 after adjustment has been made for inward and outward transfers.

BIRTH RATE, INFANT DEATH RATE, TOTAL DEATH RATE, 1958

	<i>Pewsey R.D.</i>	<i>Administrative County</i>	<i>England and Wales</i>
Birth Rate (per 1000 popn.)	20.0	18.7	16.4
Death Rate (per 1000 popn.)	10.9	10.5	11.7
Death Rate of infants under one year (per 1000 live births)	8.9	22.8	22.5

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1958

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	2	1	4	11
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	4
Measles.....	-	-	-	-	3	2	1	1	21	10	26	50	114
Meningitis	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Peurperal pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Scarlet Fever	-	2	8	-	10	6	1	-	-	6	-	3	36
Whooping cough	2	-	-	-	-	5	3	2	2	-	1	-	15
Respiratory tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	1	3	1	1	-	-	1	1	8
Other forms of tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	3
Totals	3	2	8	1	14	17	8	5	28	21	29	59	195

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS), 1958

Disease	Total	Age (years)												
		0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65-	
Dysentery	11	-	-	2	1	-	3	1	1	-	-	1	2	
Erysipelas	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
Food poisoning	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	1	
Measles.....	114	3	12	14	13	9	52	8	2	1	-	-	-	
Meningitis	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	
Peurperal pyrexia	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	
Pneumonia	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	
Scarlet fever	36	-	-	-	2	3	20	10	-	1	-	-	-	
Whooping cough	15	1	-	4	-	-	9	1	-	-	-	-	-	
Totals	184	4	12	20	16	12	84	20	4	7	-	2	3	

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The number of infective diseases notified in the Rural District during 1958 was 195, including 11 notifications in respect of tuberculosis. The months of greatest incidence were November and December; the greatest numbers were notified in the 5-10 year age group. Measles accounted for 114 of these; 15 were in respect of whooping cough; and 8 for respiratory tuberculosis. There were 4 notifications for food poisoning and 11 for dysentery; 36 cases of scarlet fever were also notified.

TUBERCULOSIS

There were 8 notifications in respect of respiratory tuberculosis, and 3 for other forms of the disease.

There was one death from tuberculosis during the year in the Rural District.

IMMUNIZATION AND VACCINATION

These services are rendered by the County Medical Officer's department under Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

Immunizations are carried out at the welfare centres and at special sessions under the direct control of the County Medical Officer by the County medical staff, and by general medical practitioners who also perform all vaccinations against smallpox.

The number of children under one year old immunized against diphtheria during 1958 in the Rural District was 191; there were 336 births during the year. The total number primarily immunized under 15 years of age was 248. The following numbers were inoculated against diphtheria during the last ten years.

<i>Age Group (Years)</i>	<i>Years</i>										<i>Total</i>
	1949	'50	'51	'52	'53	'54	'55	'56	'57	'58	
Under 5	60	176	304	242	142	234	222	187	290	228	2085
5-15	29	42	34	43	22	46	35	21	35	20	327
Totals	89	218	338	285	164	280	257	208	325	248	2412

In addition 169 children under one year old, and 33 at 1-5 years of age were inoculated against whooping cough, the total number so protected under 15 years of age was 203.

205 vaccinations against smallpox were performed during the year in the District, under one year of age.

Immunization against poliomyelitis was continued during the year. The numbers protected are included in the County aggregate.

PRINCIPAL VITAL STATISTICS OF THE RURAL DISTRICT, 1949-58

Year	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Population*	14310	17850	18950	16470	16330	16760	17270	17210	18000	17440
Live Births	278 19.4	282 15.8	315 16.6	304 18.5	293 17.9	299 17.8	294 17.0	298 17.3	317 17.6	336 19.3
Still Births	4 14.8	7 30.9	2 6.3	2 6.5	6 20.0	6 19.7	5 16.7	5 16.5	7 21.6	2 5.9
Total Deaths	158 11.0	141 7.9	176 9.3	153 9.3	135 8.3	159 9.5	150 8.7	157 9.1	156 8.7	170 9.7
Infant Deaths	7 25.2	5 17.7	6 19.0	6 19.7	12 40.9	6 20.1	6 20.4	5 16.8	4 12.6	3 8.9
Tuberculosis Deaths	5 0.3	6 0.3	3 0.2	2 0.1	2 0.1	2 0.1	2 0.1	0 0.0	3 0.2	1 0.1
Cancer Deaths	23 1.6	21 1.2	18 0.9	17 1.0	15 0.9	25 1.5	22 1.3	34 2.0	25 1.4	27 1.5
Pneumonia Deaths.....	4 0.3	6 0.3	12 0.6	7 0.4	10 0.6	13 0.8	7 0.4	5 0.3	9 0.5	5 0.3

*Includes armed forces as well as civilians from 1950 inclusive.

N.B. The corresponding rate is given underlined together with the figure on which it is based. With the exception of the infant death rate which is calculated per 1000 live births, and the still birth rate per 1000 total births, the rates given above are computed per 1000 of the population. The birth and death rates are not corrected in this table for area comparability.

WATER SUPPLY

The proposed water supply scheme in the Avon Valley has now been put in hand and those parishes it is intended to supply will thus benefit accordingly.

The public supplies in the Rural District are protected by chlorination, but of 18 other supplies from private and council estate sources only 3 are so protected; and the remaining 15 showed some degree of pollution, four of which were classified as of faecal origin. It should be noted that the most rigid supervision should be given to chlorination to ensure that the supplies so protected comply with the highest standards of bacterial purity. The degree of pollution generally in existing supplies has made imperative regular periodic bacteriological sampling which is essential if the fullest control is to be exercised over these supplies of doubtful origin which are unsatisfactory, mostly polluted, and always liable to dangerous contamination.

SEWERAGE

The sewerage scheme envisaged for the Avon valley which is still in the preparatory stage. Its implementation is a necessity.

FOOD SUPERVISION

Reference has been made by the Chief Public Health Inspector in his report, to the steady improvement in the methods of food handling and in food premises.

As well as care and common sense in the handling of food and its protection from dust and dirt, a great deal can be done by the destruction and control of flies. Waste food and garbage should not remain uncovered in bins. Flies carry disease on their feet.

CAUSES OF DEATH

REGISTRAR GENERAL'S RETURN, 1958

					M.	F.	Total
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	....	....	....	1	—	1
2	Tuberculosis, other	....	....	....	—	—	—
3	Syphilitic disease	....	....	....	—	—	—
4	Diphtheria	....	....	....	—	—	—
5	Whooping cough	....	....	....	—	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections	....	....	....	—	—	—
7	Acute poliomyelitis	....	....	....	—	—	—
8	Measles	....	....	....	—	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic disease	....	....	....	—	—	—
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	....	....	....	3	—	3
11	„ „ lung-bronchus	....	....	....	2	—	2
12	„ „ breast	....	....	....	—	3	3
13	„ „ uterus	....	....	....	—	1	1
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	....	....	....	8	7	15
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	....	....	....	1	2	3
16	Diabetes	....	....	....	1	—	1
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	....	....	....	7	14	21
18	Coronary disease, angina	....	....	....	22	8	30
19	Hypertension with heart disease	....	....	....	3	—	3
20	Other heart disease	....	....	....	17	21	38
21	Other circulatory disease	....	....	....	4	7	11
22	Influenza	....	....	....	2	—	2
23	Pneumonia	....	....	....	2	3	5
24	Bronchitis	....	....	....	4	2	6
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	....	....	....	3	1	4
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	....	....	....	2	1	3
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	....	....	....	—	—	—
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	....	....	....	—	—	—
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	....	....	....	2	—	2
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	....	....	....	—	—	—
31	Congenital malformations	....	....	....	1	1	2
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	....	....	....	3	2	5
33	Motor vehicle accidents	....	....	....	2	1	3
34	All other accidents	....	....	....	2	—	2
35	Suicide	....	....	....	1	3	4
36	Homicide and operations of war	....	....	....	—	—	—
Total of all causes					93	77	170

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF PEWSEY

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH
INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1958

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my fifth Annual Report.

It will be noted that some 4554 visits and inspections of all kinds were made by your officers, an increase of 428 over the previous year. This increase is partly accounted for by a rise in the number of water sampling visits, a rise necessary to implement a more frequent sampling routine. A substantial increase in visits concerned with drainage also occurred, this being due to our preoccupation with the pollution of the River Bourne, which is referred to in the body of the report. I am glad to be able to write that these matters have not been allowed to interfere to any significant extent with the normal essential work of the Department, and useful results have been achieved in connection with our Housing and Food Hygiene activities.

I should like to thank the Council for their support, and my colleagues for their assistance and co-operation during the year.

*I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,*

T. F. HARDING,
Senior Public Health Inspector.

STAFF

Senior Public Health Inspector	T. F. HARDING, M.A.P.H.I. (Certificate of the R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B. as Public Health Inspector, and Certificate of the R.S.I. as Meat and other Foods Inspector).
Additional Public Health Inspector	P. GLADWIN, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H (Certificate of the R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B. as Public Health Inspector and Certificate of the R.S.I. as Meat and other Foods Inspector).
Clerical Assistant and Trainee Public Health Inspector	L. T. JONES
Rodent Operator	P. N. RAISEY

TABLE OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS

Water Supply	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	558
Drainage	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	620
Moveable Dwellings	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	27
Factories and Outworkers	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	25
Bakehouses	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	12
Visits made by Inspectors re Pest Control	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	18
Visits made by Operator for Survey	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	691
Visits made by Operator for Treatment	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	843
Building Inspections	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	291
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	7
Visits under Public Health Act, 1936	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	49
Visits under Housing Act, 1957	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	284
Overcrowding and Allocation of Houses	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	308
Verminous Premises	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	4
Miscellaneous Housing Visits	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	6
Improvement Grants	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	233
Infectious Diseases	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	243
Slaughterhouse Visits	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	70
Visits to Butchers, Fishmongers, etc.	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	15
Visits to Grocers and Greengrocers	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	55
Visits to Ice-Cream Premises	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	3
Visits to Food Preparing Premises Generally	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	22
Visits to Licensed Houses	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	19
Visits to Dairies and Cowsheds	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	18
Milk Sampling Visits	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	131
Visits under Disease of Animals Order, 1957	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Total Visits								4554

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR 1958

1.	<i>Number of New Houses and Flats erected during the year.</i>					
	(a)	By Local Authority	....	....	....	48
	(b)	Conversion of 1 Council House into 2 flats	....	....	....	1
	(c)	Private Enterprise	....	....	....	18
2.	<i>Inspection of Dwellings during the year.</i>					
	(i)	Inspected for housing defects under P.H. Acts	....	....	....	17
	(ii)	Inspected for housing defects under Housing Acts	....	....	....	184
	(iii)	Number of dwellings found so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation	....	....	....	24
	(iv)	Number of dwellings found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation	....	....	....	27
3.	<i>Remedy of defects by Informal Action.</i>					
		Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of Informal Action	....	....	....	25
4.	<i>Action under Statutory Powers (Public Health and Housing Acts.</i>					
	(A)	Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1957.				
		(i)	Number of dwellings in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	....	....	—
		(ii)	Number of dwellings rendered fit after service of formal notices	....	....	—
		(a)	By owners	....	....	—
		(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	....	....	—
	(B)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts.				
		(i)	Number of dwellings in respect of which formal notices were served	....	....	4
		(ii)	Number of dwellings rendered fit after service of formal notices	....	....	2
		(a)	By owners	....	....	2
		(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	....	....	—
	(C)	Proceedings under Section 16, 17 and 27 Housing Acts, 1957.				
		(i)	Number of Demolition Orders made	....	....	2
		(ii)	Number of Houses demolished as result of Demolition Orders	....	....	2
		(iii)	Number of undertakings accepted	....	....	15
		(iv)	Number of undertakings completed	....	....	4
		(v)	Number of houses where Closing Orders were made	....	....	3
	(D)	Proceedings under Section 42 and 43 Housing Act, 1957.				
		(i)	Number of houses under which Demolition Orders were made	....	....	—
		(ii)	Number of Houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	....	....	—
		(iii)	Number of houses demolished due to informal action	....	....	1
		(iv)	Number of unfit houses purchased by Council and demolished as part of reconstruction schemes	....	....	3

(E) Proceedings under Section 18 Housing Act, 1957.			
(i)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made		—
(ii)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were cancelled, as a result of premises having been made fit	.... ....	—
5. <i>Housing Acts, 1957—Part iv. Overcrowding.</i>			
(i)	Number of cases of overcrowded dwellings at end of year	.... .... .... .... .... .... ....	2
(ii)	Number of cases discovered during year	.... ....	5
(iii)	Number of cases abated during year	.... ....	3

HOUSING

Further progress was made during the year in dealing with houses scheduled for action under the Slum Clearance Scheme. 23 houses were dealt with by formal action under the Housing Act. Included in this number were 10 War Department owned houses, under an arrangement whereby the Council have undertaken to rehouse the tenants of unfit W.D. houses. A number of houses were dealt with informally by your officers and by the end of the year 77 unfit houses out of the original total of 160 privately owned unfit houses had been dealt with since the inception of the scheme, either by demolition, closure, or reconditioning. Of these, 18 have been reconditioned with the assistance of Improvement Grants, and at the end of the year, a further 12 were undergoing recondition.

The demand for Improvement Grants, after reaching a peak of 70 houses in 1956, seems to have settled down, and the figures for 1957 and 1958 are closely matched. Applications in respect of 43 houses were granted during the year under review, and improvements to 42 houses were completed during the year. In all, some 269 houses have been improved since the scheme first began. The Council have continued to apply a maximum grant of £250 per house. The average cost of the improvements per dwelling during 1958 was £635, and the average percentage grant 36.3%.

Other housing activities of the Department are concerned with the assessment of the need of applicants for rehousing, sub-tenancies in Council Houses, disputes between tenants, etc. These activities required 308 visits during the year.

WATER SUPPLY GENERALLY

In my report for the year 1957 I mentioned that all water supplies for which the Council was responsible were sampled so far as possible on a monthly basis, and the total number of samples taken was 155. During 1958 it became clear that a monthly routine of sampling for certain supplies was not sufficient, and that in some cases better protection for the public would be achieved if samples were taken on weekly or fortnightly basis. This decision was put into effect during the year and is reflected in a spectacular increase in the total number of samples taken, which has risen to 463. In 1953 the total number of samples taken was 45 so that in 5 years the number of samples taken by the Department has increased ten-fold.

During the year the Council's Avon Valley Water Scheme got under way, and the work of laying the mains and constructing a reservoir was well in hand at the end of the year. This supply, which will be drawn from boreholes at Compton, will supply the parishes of Upavon, Enford, Fittleton and Netheravon, and thus make the closure of many unfit shallow wells in that area at last a practical possibility.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES

PEWSEY, COLLINGBOURNE KINGSTON AND DUCIS, BURBAGE, EASTON ROYAL AND MILTON LILBOURNE

The water consumed by the inhabitants of these parishes is derived from the Council's boreholes at Collingbourne, and it is estimated that 95% of the houses in those parishes are connected to the mains.

The water is chlorinated, and is alkaline with a P.H. value of 7.2 ; the total hardness is 300 p.p.m. In my report for 1957 I mentioned that a serious pollution of this supply had taken place towards the end of that year. During 1958, a year in which the rainfall was very heavy, on several occasions the water from the boreholes was found to be severely polluted with faecal organisms and on each occasion this pollution was associated with a rise in the adjacent River Bourne. It is now apparent that polluted water from the Bourne is finding its way into the chalk from which the supply is derived. Investigations have shown that the Bourne itself is polluted by the effluents from the drainage systems of several farms, and efforts are being made to secure the disconnection of these drainage systems from the river in the hope that by reducing the pollution of the Bourne, the pollution of the Council's water supply will also be reduced. During the year it became evident that chlorinating equipment giving a more precise control over the dose rate was needed and the Council authorised the purchase of a modern gas chlorinator which will be installed early in 1959. It is obvious that a very strict and frequent regime of sampling was required in connection with this supply and during the year no less than 80

samples were taken of water as supplied to the consumer, of which 75 were satisfactory, one showed pollution with non-faecal organisms and four with faecal organisms. In addition 32 samples were taken from the boreholes, of which 24 were satisfactory, one showed non-faecal pollution and seven showed faecal pollution in varying degrees. Three chemical samples were taken during the year.

LUDGERSHALL AND CHUTE

The water is purchased in bulk from the Andover R.D.C. and chlorinated by that authority. It is alkaline with a P.H. value of 7.4 and the total hardness is 220 p.p.m. 34 samples were taken for bacteriological analysis of which 33 were entirely satisfactory and one showed minimal, non-faecal pollution.

WOOTTON RIVERS

The water is obtained from a deep well and is chlorinated. The P.H. value is 7.1 and the total hardness is 304 p.p.m. The great majority of the houses in the parish are supplied from the main. 36 bacteriological samples were taken from this supply of which 24 were satisfactory, 9 showed non-faecal pollution and three pollution by faecal organisms.

Remedial works were carried out in the pumphouse and the supply has now reverted to a satisfactory degree of purity.

NORTH TIDWORTH

The water for this parish is obtained from a War Department owned source and the great majority of the houses in the parish derive their water from it. 32 samples were taken for bacteriological examination and all of them were satisfactory.

EVERLEIGH

Here again, the great majority of the houses in this parish are supplied from a War Department owned source. 38 samples were taken during the year and again every one of them can be regarded as satisfactory.

NETHERAVON

The water supply to a large part of this parish is provided by the War Department. The water is abstracted from the River Avon and filtered and chlorinated before delivery to the consumer. 39 bacteriological samples were taken during the year of which 37 were satisfactory and two showed minor non-faecal pollution.

OTHER WATER SUPPLIES

These supplies are ones where the Council supply only their estates in the parish concerned, or where water is supplied to a significant number of houses in the parish by a private supplier.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Type of Supply</i>	<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Sample Results</i>			<i>Total</i>
			<i>Not Polluted</i>	<i>Non-Faecal Pollution</i>	<i>Faecal Pollution</i>	
Alton Priors and Barnes Bottlesford	Private Estate Well	Nil	3	4	—	7
	Post-War Council Estate Borehole	Nil	2	3	—	5
Charlton	Private Estate Supply	Nil	3	3	—	6
Coombe	Private Estate Well	Nil	29	5	3	37
Enford	War Dept. Supply to Council Estate Well	Chlorinated	14	—	—	14
Fittleton	Council Estate Borehole	Chlorinated	12	1	—	13
Manningford	Council Estate Borehole	Chlorinated	3	—	—	3
North Newnton	Pre-war Council Estate, Well (Handpump)	Nil	5	—	—	5
North Newnton	Private Estate Borehole	Nil	3	1	—	4
Oare	Council Estate Borehole	Nil	5	1	—	6
Oare	Private Estate Borehole	Nil	2	1	—	3
Rushall	Private Estate Supply	Nil	2	4	—	6
Upavon	Council Estate Borehole	Nil	12	3	—	15
Wilcot	Council Estate Borehole	Nil	6	—	1	7
Wilcot	Private Estate Well	Nil	3	2	1	6
Wilsford	Private Estate Well	Nil	5	—	—	5
Woodborough	Pre-war Council Estate, Well (Handpump)	Nil	4	1	1	6
Woodborough	Post-war Council Estate, Borehole	Nil	6	—	—	6

In addition 14 samples were taken from individual private wells for various purposes.

DRAINAGE

As in 1957, no major works of sewerage were undertaken during 1958 by the Council. Nevertheless, preparations for the comprehensive Avon Valley Sewerage Scheme were progressing and by the end of the year the Burbage, Easton Royal and Milton Lilbourne Sewerage scheme was in an advanced state of preparation. It is hoped that these schemes will go forward without delay, as in the Avon Valley in particular, drainage conditions are very bad, with open road-side sullage ditches in the parishes of Upavon and Netheravon which, apart from their nuisance value, discharge directly into the River Avon and thereby contribute to the pollution of that stream.

It should also be borne in mind that as the piped water is brought into these parishes with the completion of the Council's Avon Valley Water Scheme, the nuisance value of these roadside ditches will be vastly increased. Outside the sewered parishes of Pewsey, Ludgershall and Everleigh, the great majority of houses in the district continue to rely upon bucket closets, septic tanks, and in the case of the post-war Council houses, small estate sewage disposal units. A great many visits have been made during the year in connection with drainage problems of one sort or another, and it is gratifying to report that the advice of the department has been freely sought and has helped to overcome drainage problems in several places.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During the year no outbreaks of infectious diseases of any importance occurred in the district. There have, however, been a number of small outbreaks of food-borne infections such as sonne-dysentery. These outbreaks have rarely involved more than three or four persons at one time, but in every case it has been virtually impossible to trace back the source of the infection and the only action open to us has been prevention of the further spread of the infection.

FOOD PREMISES GENERALLY

No outbreaks of food poisoning occurred during the year which could be directly attributed to bad food handling in the district. There has been a steady improvement both in the condition of food premises and in the methods of food handlers, although much still remains to be done. Pressure of other work has prevented as much time being devoted to this work as could be desired, although 126 visits were made to food premises of all kinds during the year. 12 verbal intimations were made to traders concerning minor infringements of the Regulations, and 5 written notices were issued. All had been complied with by the end of the year. Towards the end of the year a survey of licensed premises was begun, and 8 notices requiring works of various kinds were issued.

Shown below is a table indicating the types and numbers of food premises in the district.

Butchers	....	....	....	....	....	10
Bakers	....	....	....	....	....	13
Grocers	....	....	....	....	....	31
Fishmongers	....	....	....	....	....	5
Greengrocers	....	....	....	....	....	5
Cafes	....	....	....	....	....	13
Fishfryers	....	....	....	....	....	4
Food Factories	....	....	....	....	....	2
Licensed Houses	....	....	....	....	....	44
General Stores	....	....	....	....	....	17
Registered Premises (Food and Drugs Act, 1955 Section 16)						
For the storage and sale of ice-cream (pre-packed)	....	....	....	....	....	45
For the manufacture, storage and sale of ice-cream	....	....	....	....	....	1
For Fishfrying....	....	....	....	....	....	4
For Sausage Manufacturing	....	....	....	....	....	5

MEAT INSPECTION

During the year the one licensed slaughter-house in the district changed hands. It is, however, continuing to function on a very modest scale, slaughtering therein taking place only for the needs of one butcher's business. Meat for the remaining butchers in the district comes from the large slaughter-houses in Swindon and Salisbury where it is inspected by the officers of those Local Authorities. The table given below shows the numbers of animals slaughtered, inspected, and the percentage condemned. It will be noted that all the carcasses produced at the slaughter-house were inspected. Condemned meat from the slaughter-house is disposed of by burial, condemned tinned and all other foods are collected by the Council and disposed of at the refuse tip. The one licensed Knackers yard in the district has continued to function satisfactorily during the year, and has caused no trouble from the public health point of view.

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows Calves Sheep Pigs cows</i>				
Number killed	78	12	3	66	52
Number inspected	78	12	3	66	52
All diseases except Tuberculosis, whole carcase condemned	—	—	1	—	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis, Part or Organ condemned	16	6	—	—	4
% of No. inspected infected	20.5	50	33.3	—	7.7
Tuberculosis only, whole carcase condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis only, part or Organ condemned	—	—	—	—	—
% of No. inspected infected	—	—	—	—	3.8

Cysticercus bovis :—1 bullock infected : heart and head condemned, carcase consigned to cold store.

Meat condemned at butchers' shops : 14 lb. Gammon
12 lb. Liver
61 lb. Beef.

MILK

The table given below shows the number of milk samples taken during the year and the results of the tests to which these samples were submitted. Samples are taken of milk as supplied to the consumer by various dairymen in the district, and in addition, visits are made to farms throughout the district to sample milk as produced at that farm. Samples taken from dairymen are subjected to the methylene blue test for keeping quality, and additionally, in the case of pasteurised milk to the phosphatase test for adequate pasteurisation. All samples taken from farms are subjected to biological examination for the presence of tubercle bacillus and to the Ring Test for the presence of brucella abortus. It is satisfying to note that since sampling began on a routine basis in 1954 no tubercle bacilli have been found. During 1958 the district became part of a designated area and all milk now sold in the district must be of designated quality.

<i>No. of farms producing milk</i>	<i>No. of Registered Dairies</i>	<i>No. of Registered Distributors of Milk</i>
129	4	11

SAMPLE RESULTS 1958

Samples subjected to Methylene Blue Test	....	....	....	104
Samples subjected to Phosphatase Test	....	....	....	45
Samples failing Methylene Blue or Phosphatase Test	....	....		3
Samples subjected to biological examination for the presence of tubercle bacilli	....	....	....	124
Samples showing positive T.B. reaction	....	....	....	Nil
Samples subjected to Ring Test for presence of brucella abortus				124
Samples showing positive reaction to Ring Test		1 plus		1
		2 plus		6
		3 plus		8
Samples of milk showing positive Br. Abortus reaction on bio- logical examination	....	....	....	Nil
Samples of sterilised milk subjected to Turbidity Test	....	....		1

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

There have been no severe problems in connection with moveable dwellings in the area during 1958. An increase in the number of caravans used for residential purposes has been noted but to a large extent this has taken place on two licensed sites in the district, one of which has been opened during the year. On both of these sites, facilities as to water supply and drainage are satisfactory. One site in the district containing six caravans is poorly equipped with sanitary facilities and water supply: the advent of the Avon Valley Water and Sewerage Schemes will enable radical improvements to be made on this site. The table below gives details of the numbers of caravans and sites throughout the district.

LICENSED CARAVAN SITES 1958

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Max. No. Vans permitted</i>	<i>Sanitation</i>	<i>Water Supply</i>
Oare	20	W.C.s	Piped (Private Supply)
Netheravon	20	W.C.s	Piped (W.D. Main)
Ludgershall	4	W.C.s	Piped (Council Main)
Upavon	6	Bucket closets	Handpump only
Haxton	2	Bucket closets	Piped (W.D. Main)

In addition there are a further 12 licensed caravans on individual sites in various parishes.

RODENT CONTROL

During 1958, 183 properties of all kinds were disinfested by the Council's Rodent Operator, as compared with 225 in 1957. Nearly 700 visits of inspection were carried out by the Operator during the year, and it is probable that this vigorous inspection routine that has been carried out for a number of years now is in part responsible for the steady decline in the number of infestations found and dealt with over recent years. The Council's various sewage works, and the refuse tip were regularly baited, and the rat population in these preferred locations kept well under control. In addition to the rodent control work referred to 6 infestations of cockroaches and one of fleas were destroyed.

FACTORIES

Number of factories without mechanical power	....	15
Number of factories with mechanical power	....	27

25 factory visits were carried out during the year, no matters were noted that required action by your officers.

E. H. PERKINS AND SON, LTD., MARLBOROUGH
